

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3153

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3879

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

CINCUSAFE

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS ANKARA 2807

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU

SUBJECT: FONMIN BRIEFS JOINT FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON
THE NEW AGREEMENT

1. APRIL 9 FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL BRIEFD A JOINT SENATE-ASSEMBLY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SESSION ON THE NEW U.S.-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA). ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE MEETING, CAGLAYANGIL EXPLAINED THAT TURKEY HAD ENTERED INTO THE NEW AGREEMENT BECAUSE IT HAD MADE A DECISION TO REMAIN IN NATO, AND WAS THEREFORE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING THE ALLIANCE. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE AGREEMENT WOULD NOT BE SENT TO THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT FOR APPROVAL UNTIL AFTER THE U.S. CONGRESS HAD TAKEN ACTION.

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2. IN RESPONSE TO A COMMITTEE MEMBER WHO ASKED IF THE

U.S. HAD BROUGHT UP THE CYPRUS AND AEGEAN QUESTIONS DURING THE TALKS IN WASHINGTON, CAGLAYANGIL SAID THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE DID NOT MENTION THESE QUESTIONS. HE IS QUOTED BY THE PRESS AS SAYING, "THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT AND THE CYPRUS QUESTION ARE COMPLETELY SEPARATE FROM ONE ANOTHER."

3. AS SPOKESMAN FOR THE OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP), FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER TURAN GUNES REPORTEDLY SPOKE AT SOME LENGTH ABOUT THE "NEW DEFENSE CONCEPT" THAT PARTY CHAIRMAN ECEVIT HAS BEEN MENTIONING RECENTLY. GUNES EXPLAINED THAT THE NEW CONCEPT DID NOT INCLUDE WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO BUT HE SAID IT IS NECESSARY THAT TURKEY FIND SOURCES FOR THE UNCONDITIONAL SUPPLY OF DEFENSE MATERIAL. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEFENSE INDUSTRY, GUNES RESPONDED: "THIS SHOULD NOT BE EXAGGERATED. FROM NOW ON NO COUNTRY WILL BE ABLE TO PRODUCE BY ITSELF THE NECESSARY WEAPONS AND DEFENSE MATERIAL."

MACOMBER

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